



Forest Service
Los Padres
National Forest

Mount Pinos Ranger District
34580 Lockwood Valley Road
Frazier Park, CA 93225
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File Code: 6730

Date: September 14, 2011

Subject: Preliminary (24-hour—after the accident) Briefing

To: Peggy Hernandez, Forest Supervisor

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Location: Highway 33, near mile marker 45 on the Los Padres National Forest

Date of occurrence: September 13, 2011

Time of occurrence: 1530

Team leader: Ron Ashdale

Mission: Fire Suppression/Smoke Recon

Activity: Lookout/Patrol

Number injured: 3

Number of fatalities: 0

Property damage: None

Narrative:

While out on patrol for new lightening fires, 3 firefighters suffered the effects of a nearby lightning strike. Witnesses say the ground was struck an estimated 50 feet from where the firefighters were standing. One firefighter was transported by air, while the other two were transported by ground. One firefighter was treated and released within hours, while the other two were held overnight for observation and released the next morning.

A review of the incident will be conducted by a Lessons Learned Team from a neighboring unit.

ERIK VAN WALDEN

District Ranger



cc;

Tony Martinez
Erik Van Walden
Anthony J. Escobar
John Abell
Peter Tolosano

